they also examined the width and depth of the larger streams, seeking what they knew they needed, a means of transportation of the anthracite coal to a city market. There is some support for the belief that they mined a small quantity of anthracite as early as 1816, which they were unable to sell. About the year 1822, they reached what is now Carbondale, named it, built a log-house for the use of themselves and their workmen, and established themselves here. In that year, a lumber wagon brought to them from Philadelphia (143 miles away), tools and powder and some of the necessaries of a camping life. Then they opened a rude mine, which became the nucleus of the mines of the company that they did so much to establish, the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company.

Late in the autumn of 1822, the Wurts brothers had mined at Carbondale, under circumstances of some difficulty, nearly a thousand tons of anthracite. During the following winter, they succeeded in transporting, to Philadelphia, part of the distance on sleds and the remainder by means of rafts on the Lackawaxen and Delaware Rivers, about one hundred tons of this fuel. The various accounts of the venture that have been handed down do not entirely agree, but the Wurts brothers probably sold this coal for between ten and twelve dollars a ton. The Philadelphia market, however, at this time was well supplied with Lehigh coal, the first shipments (365 tons) were sent there in 1820. The Wurts brothers, as a result, had some difficulty in selling their coal in Philadelphia. They decided, therefore, that they would market their coal in the city of New York. To do so meant that a transportation system would have to be established between Carbondale and the Hudson River. In 1828, accordingly, the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company built a canal from Honesdale to Rondout, on the Hudson River. In the following year, the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company constructed a gravity railroad from Carbondale to Honesdale.